

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 5, 16, and 25-28 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 12, 23, and 24 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for producing a virtual space for walk-through, said apparatus comprising:

holding means for holding plural pieces of frame data constituting each of plural moving images captured using each of a plurality of ~~capture~~ capturing devices mounted on a moving object, associated with position data obtained based on GPS, that indicate a position at which each piece of frame data is captured;

setting means for setting a sampling interval of frame data;

extraction means for reading position data associated with successive frame data and extracting position data ~~which nearly match~~ based on the sampling interval;

deletion means for deleting~~[[,]]~~ from frame data ~~corresponding to each~~ of the plurality of capturing devices~~[[,]]~~ that has been held in said holding means, ~~all frame data corresponding and corresponds~~ to the extracted position data except for one of said extracted position data;

generation means for generating panoramic images from the frame data captured by the plurality of capturing devices; and

associating means for associating each of the panoramic images with a position on a map based on the position data of frames constituting that panoramic image,

wherein said extracted position data correspond to positions separated by a distance shorter than a distance corresponding to the set sampling interval.

2. - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An image processing method for producing a virtual space for walk-through, said method comprising the steps of:

holding in a holding means plural pieces of frame data constituting each of plural moving images captured using each of a plurality of ~~capture~~ capturing devices mounted on a moving object, wherein said holding means stores each of the plural pieces of frame data associated with position data obtained based on GPS, that indicate a position at which each piece of frame data is captured;

setting means for setting a sampling interval of frame data;

reading position data associated with successive frame data and extracting position data ~~which nearly match~~ based on the set sampling interval;

deleting, ~~from~~ frame data ~~corresponding to each~~ of the plurality of capturing devices[,], that has been held in the holding means, ~~all frame data corresponding and corresponds~~ to the extracted position data except for one of said extracted position data;

generating panoramic images from the frame data captured by the plurality of capturing devices; and

associating each of the panoramic images with a position on a map based on the position data of frames constituting that panoramic image,

wherein said extracted position data correspond to positions separated by a distance shorter than a distance corresponding to the set sampling interval.

13 - 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A computer-executable program, stored on a computer readable medium, which makes a computer execute an image processing apparatus for producing a virtual space for walk-through, comprising:

code for setting a sampling interval of frame data;

code for reading position data associated with successive frame data and extracting position data based on the set sampling interval ~~which nearly match~~, from holding means which holds plural pieces of frame data constituting each of plural moving images captured using each of a plurality of ~~capture~~ capturing devices mounted on a moving object, associated with position data obtained based on GPS, that indicate a position at which each piece of frame data is captured;

code for deleting, ~~from~~ frame data ~~corresponding to each~~ of the plurality of capturing devices[[,]] that has been held in the holding means, ~~all frame data corresponding and corresponds~~ to the extracted position data except for one of said extracted position data;

code for generating panoramic images from the frame data captured by the plurality of capturing devices; and

code for associating each of the panoramic images with a position on a map based on the position data of frames constituting that panoramic image,

wherein said extracted position data corresponds to positions separated by a distance shorter than a distance corresponding to the set sampling interval.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program which makes a computer execute an image processing apparatus for producing a virtual space for walk-through, wherein said program comprises:

a code for setting a sampling interval of frame data;

a code of a reading step of reading position data associated with successive frame data and of an extracting step of extracting position data based on the set sampling interval ~~which nearly match~~, from holding means which holds plural pieces of frame data constituting each of a plurality of moving images captured by using each of a plurality of ~~capture~~ capturing devices mounted on a moving object, associated with position data obtained based on GPS, that indicate a position at which each piece of frame data is captured;

a code of a deleting step of deleting ~~from frame data corresponding to each of the plurality of capturing devices[[,]]~~ that has been held in the holding means, ~~all frame data corresponding~~ and corresponds to the extracted position data except for one of said extracted position data;

a code for a generating step of generating panoramic images from the frame data captured by the plurality of capturing devices; and

a code of an associating step of associating each of the panoramic images with a position on a map based on the position data of frames constituting that panoramic image, wherein said extracted position data corresponds to positions separated by a distance shorter than a distance corresponding to the sampling interval.

25. - 30. (Cancelled)